

with great messages. Some of them successfully push pet projects, but it has not been easy for them to capture a mass following across the city as has Middlebrook.

Perhaps the first one to have that kind of influence and reverence was the Rev. George Washington LeVere, who came here as pastor of Shiloh Presbyterian Church on Feb. 9, 1866. He had been a chaplain in the 29th Regiment of the United States Colored Infantry. Having been born and educated in Brooklyn, N.Y., he came here ready to practice what he would preach.

In 1869 he organized the Shieldstown (LeVere) School on Linden Avenue, which provided the initial education for William H. Franklin, the first black graduate of Maryville College in 1880. LeVere was a charter member of the Meridian Lodge No. 4 of the Free and Accepted Masons. He served as their Grand Master. He helped organize the Colored Mechanics Association in 1871. He was pastor of Shiloh for 22 years.

Another giant in the fight for human dignity was the Rev. William T. Crutcher, who served as pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church for 54 years. He arrived there in 1935 and served until his death in 1989. He attended the Baptist World Alliance in London, England, in 1955 and went on a month-long preaching mission to Africa in 1973.

He was a true fighter for justice here in Knoxville. In 1948 he took the lead in getting the city of Knoxville to make Chilhowee Park available to blacks one day a week instead of one day a year. He also led the effort to allow blacks to play golf at the city-owned Whittle Springs Golf Course. In the early 1960s Crutcher was a co-chair of the Associated Council for Full Citizenship, which led to the desegregation of lunch counters and movie theaters. Numerous threats were made on his life.

The Rev. Frank Gordon became pastor of Shiloh Presbyterian Church in 1952 and he, too, was a trailblazer in many activities outside his church. He taught Bible and religious history at Knoxville College from 1953 to 1956 and was a candidate for the Knoxville Board of Education on two occasions. He was a member of the Mayor's Commission on Race Relations and a member of Gov. Frank Clement's State Commission on Race.

Gordon was president of the Knoxville branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the state president of that organization, which helped integrate the school systems of all 95 Tennessee counties.

Middlebrook was not the first activist preacher in this city, but he has been one of the most successful ones in his undertakings. He has left a real legacy for those who choose to follow his lead.

H.R. 357, H.R. 3590, AND H.R. 3964

### HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize passage this week of three important pieces of legislation: H.R. 357, the G.I. Bill Tuition Fairness Act; H.R. 3590, the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act; and H.R. 3964, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act. Unfortunately, I was not able to vote on final passage of these important bills because of a death in my family and my attendance at the subsequent funeral.

The G.I. Bill Tuition Fairness Act is commonsense legislation for our veterans that will

lead to more affordable education opportunities when our men and women in uniform return from service.

The Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act is a bipartisan package of eight individual bills that will strengthen and preserve important outdoor traditions and some of our pristine natural treasures for American sportsmen, recreational enthusiasts and future generations. I am proud to have been a cosponsor of this bill.

H.R. 3964, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act seeks to address the crisis that is taking place in California that has resulted from extreme drought and other challenges. I am supportive of measures that provide much needed relief to our farmers. Having said that, as I am a strong supporter of state water rights, I could not have supported this legislation without the inclusion of provision 501 which states these dire circumstances are unique to California and should not serve as a precedent for other states.

Finally, I want to address three quick items that came up during debate on H.R. 3590. The first is H. Amdt. 541, offered by Mr. HOLT, which would have allowed the Secretary to prevent hunting and fishing on public lands based on speculative climate change studies. Any proposals to limit hunting and fishing should be made by state fish and game agencies and local communities, not Washington bureaucrats. The second item is H. Amdt. 537 offered by Mr. DeFAZIO that would have undermined the bill, lead to frivolous lawsuits and the eventual closing of public lands for hunting and fishing. Clearly, this amendment is contradictory to the intent of the bill and would have had negative consequences. The third and final issue that came up during debate on H.R. 3590 was in relation to condors and lead ammo. I would encourage legislators who opposed the bill based on this premise to visit my home state of Arizona where they have put forth a voluntary program that is having fantastic results and could serve as a model for the country on how to address this issue.

Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted in support of these three important bills with a "yea" vote on rollcall Numbers 33, 41 and 50. I would have opposed the two dangerous amendments and voted "nay" on rollcall numbers 38 and 39.

HONORING AND SUPPORTING  
TEAM USA AT THE XXII OLYMPIC  
WINTER GAMES

### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Team USA, the United States Olympic Committee, and all of our Olympic and Paralympic athletes. Today, the 22nd Olympic Winter Games will begin in Sochi, Russia. They will be followed shortly afterwards by the 11th Paralympic Winter Games. Over 200 American athletes will be representing our nation at the Olympics, participating in 15 events.

Many of these athletes have worked all their lives for the honor of representing their nation at the highest level. All of them will captivate

and inspire us all through friendly competition, sportsmanship, solidarity, and fair play. From the thrill of downhill skiing to the quiet Zen of curling, Olympians from across the globe will kindle the Olympic Spirit as they compete alongside other world-class athletes.

I am especially pleased that my home state of Rhode Island is represented in Pairs Figure Skating by Marissa Castelli of Cranston. It has been over a quarter century since Team USA was on the medal platform for Pairs Skating, but we have a great chance of returning this year. We are all immensely proud of her accomplishments and we look forward to cheering on Marissa, her partner Simon Shnapir, and all the other members of Team USA.

In addition to our Olympic athletes, I would like to take a moment to commend America's Paralympians. Although they might not get the same television coverage as the Olympics, the Paralympics showcases some of the finest talent this country has to offer. Some of these world-class athletes are also wounded warriors who served in our military and fought for our country with honor and distinction. I have been pleased to work with the U.S. Olympic Committee and my Congressional colleagues to provide adaptive sports programs to injured service members, helping to speed their recovery time, bolster their self-confidence, and vastly improve their quality of life.

I would also like to recognize the courage of all the LGBT athletes participating in these Olympics. While I strongly oppose Russia's anti-gay legislation, I have every confidence that our athletes will display the same grace and dignity under pressure that has served them well in their quest for Olympic glory.

The Olympic movement is a testament to the power of international competition to unite us in common spirit and a reminder to all that we can achieve our dreams with courage and determination. I wish our Athletes well in the upcoming games, and thank the U.S. Olympic Committee for their continued dedication to achieving a better world through athletics.

IN HONOR OF 'THE BLUEGRASS  
STORYTELLER'—MR. JAMES KING

### HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in honor of 'The Bluegrass Storyteller'—Mr. James King, who was born in Martinsville, Virginia and grew up immersed in the rich musical tradition of Southwest Virginia's Carroll County. After 20 years of playing bluegrass music, Mr. King's album "Three Chords and the Truth" was nominated for the 2013 Grammy Awards in the category of Best Bluegrass Album.

Surrounded by talented musicians including his father Jim and his uncle Joe Edd, Mr. King first picked up a guitar when he was eight years old. Though he began by playing rock and roll, Mr. King returned to bluegrass as he entered his teen years.

Mr. King served our country in the Marines before moving to Delaware. He has said that the Stanley Brothers (of Dickenson County, Virginia), Dudley Connell, Jimmy Martin, and Ted Lundy (of Galax, Virginia) have been major influences in his career.

He has released numerous group and solo albums throughout the years, and his band was recognized in 1997 as Emerging Artist of the Year by the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA), Recorded Event of the Year by the IBMA for its self-titled 1997 debut, and was also nominated for IBMA's 1999 Song of the Year for "Bed by the Window."

On "Three Chords and the Truth," released in late September, Mr. King interprets classic country western songs like George Jones' "He Stopped Loving Her Today" into the bluegrass format so characteristic of Mr. King. I commend Mr. James King for his hard work on this fine album and congratulate him for the recognition it has received. "Three Chords and the Truth" may not have been awarded a Grammy Award, but it has won the hearts of many music fans. I am optimistic that the talented Bluegrass Storyteller and his band will one day have their day in the sun.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 50. If my vote had been counted, I would have voted "yea" on passage of H.R. 3964.

#### HONORING JOHN WOOD, CEO OF SALLY CORP.

### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Wood, CEO of Sally Corp., who was recently honored for his life work in the creation of amusement rides by being inducted into the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions Hall of Fame.

Sally Corp., based in Jacksonville, is a prime example of the American dream come true. Started in a garage in 1977, the Sally Corp. creates dark ride attractions, bringing to life interactive experiences that go beyond the imagination. Ron Gustafson, chairman of the Hall of Fame and Archives Committee, said that John "revolutionized the attractions industry." He was able to take the staccato rides of old and create a story that leaves riders clamoring for more.

Thanks to John's devotion, Sally Corp. has continued to grow and profit, and their reach has extended across the globe. Sally Corp. is currently working on an animated musical attraction called the "White Tiger Show" in China and they have completed projects in both India and Australia.

It is truly an honor to have John Wood and Sally Corp. in the 4th Congressional District of Florida. Small business owners are the backbone of our nation and it gives me great pleasure to commend John for his outstanding achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and Members of the House of Representatives join me in this very special congressional salute to John Wood.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF RODNEY LEE KENDIG

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and dedicated service of Mr. Rodney Lee "Rod" Kendig. Mr. Kendig was a committed public servant and a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. All of Northwest Florida mourns his passing.

Rod Kendig was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and graduated from Newton High School in Newton, New Jersey. After finishing his high school studies, he received a degree from the College of Wooster and a graduate degree from the University of Maryland. In 1978, while working for the National Association of Counties in Washington, D.C., Mr. Kendig was hired as Escambia County Administrator, and he moved with his family to Pensacola, Florida.

After several successful years as Escambia County Administrator, Mr. Kendig continued his public service to the Northwest Florida community as City Manager for the City of Pensacola. The position of Pensacola City Manager was a particularly important position that helped set the agenda for the Pensacola City Council. During his nine years on the job, he oversaw a number of important local projects, including: the construction of a new airport terminal and control tower at Pensacola Airport, a large expansion of Pensacola's city limits, construction of the Vickery Community Center, and acquisition of the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum, amongst many other accomplishments. Mr. Kendig continued his success in the private sector, joining the local firm Baskerville-Donovan, where he was instrumental in facilitating plans to move the city's wastewater treatment plant out of downtown Pensacola.

Mr. Kendig was also committed to serving the community away from the job. Along with his wife Paula, he volunteered with the Children's Home Society, and they served as a foster family for dozens of local children. The Kendigs fell in love and adopted one of the foster babies with special needs. Mr. Kendig became a community leader and advocate for children's health and education issues, serving on the Arc Gateway Board of Directors, the State Partnership for School Readiness, and the Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County. Mr. Kendig was also an avid reader and supporter of literacy and local libraries, and he was elected to serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the West Florida Public Library System.

Mr. Speaker, Rod Kendig was an exceptional public servant, loving family man, and a great community leader. His impact on Northwest Florida will never be forgotten. My wife Vicki and I send our prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Paula; mother, Jane; children, Kathy, Andrea, Adam, Christy, Chelsey, and Jacob; grandchildren, Jennifer, Melissa, Billy, Nina, Paul and AJ; great grandson, Grady; sister, Brenda; and the entire Kendig family.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed roll Nos. 40 and 41. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll No. 40 and "nay" on roll No. 41.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 41 I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 3590.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### HONORING GEORGE W. KOCH

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of George W. Koch, who passed away on January 26, 2014, at the age of 87.

Mr. Koch spent more than 50 years in Washington, DC. After 6 years as manager of the Washington, DC office of Sears, Roebuck & Co., he took over as President and CEO of the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) in 1966. During his 24 years with the GMA, he transformed the organization into a leading industry advocacy group. Major efforts during his tenure included the adoption of the Universal Product Code in 1974 and the development of tamper-resistant packaging in 1982. Mr. Koch became known for his passion, his work ethic and his strong sense of morality. In the late 1970s, the Washington Afro-American honored Mr. Koch for his personal efforts to combat wage-skimming at the Congressional Country Club from its minority wait staff.

After his retirement from the GMA, he became a partner at K&L Gates. He served on the Board of Directors for Borden Chemicals and Plastics, McCormick & Company, and the Watchdogs of the Treasury; the Advisory Council of the International Executive Service Corps; and the Board of Trustees for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. He also served as North American Counsel for the International Center for Companies of the Food Industry and as Congressional Advisor to the Transatlantic Policy Network.

In May of 2013, the Grocery Manufacturers Association chose to honor Mr. Koch with the first-ever George W. Koch Leadership in Public Policy Award, for his decades of service to the organization. This award is now given out annually to exemplary individuals.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank George W. Koch for his years of service, his tireless advocacy, and his exceptional moral character.